

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
6 October 2005 (06.10.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/092867 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61K 31/505**,
C07D 405/06, 309/10, 309/30

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2005/001099

(22) International Filing Date: 23 March 2005 (23.03.2005)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
0406757.5 26 March 2004 (26.03.2004) GB

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AF, AG, AI, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ,
TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA,
ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,
GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

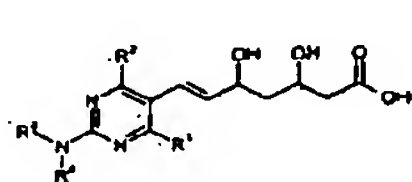
Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of
amendments.

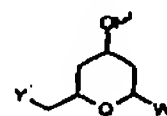
(88) Date of publication of the international search report:
10 November 2005

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

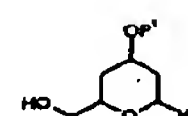
(54) Title: **PROCESS AND INTERMEDIATE COMPOUNDS USEFUL IN THE PREPARATION OF STATINS, PARTICULARLY ROSUVASTATIN**



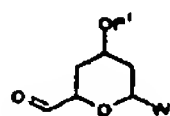
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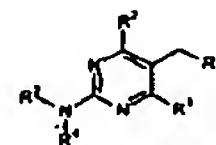
(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)

(57) Abstract: There is provided a process for the preparation of a compound of formula (7) wherein R¹ represents an alkyl group; R² represents an aryl group; R³ represents hydrogen, a protecting group or an alkyl group; and R⁴ represents hydrogen, a protecting group or a SO₂R⁵ group where R⁵ is an alkyl group, which comprises a) hydroxylating a compound of formula (1) wherein Y represents a halo group; P¹ represents hydrogen or a protecting group, and W represents =O or -OP², in which P² represents hydrogen or a protecting group, to give a compound of formula (2), b) oxidising the compound of formula (2) to give a compound of formula (3), c) coupling the compound of formula (3) with a compound of formula (4), wherein R³ represents a protecting group or an alkyl group; R⁴ represents a protecting group or a SO₂R⁵ group where R⁵ is an alkyl group; and R⁶ represents (PR⁷R⁸)⁺X⁻ or P(=O)R⁷R⁸ in which X is an anion and R⁷ and R⁸ each independently is an alkyl, aryl.

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